



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
08/900.581	07/25/97	KELDERMAN	AG-101RE

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PM11/0526

EXAMINER  
STORMER, R

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3612

DATE MAILED:

05/26/99

05/26/99

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

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DATE MAILED:

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.  
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

**SUPPLEMENTAL  
NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.

- ☐ This communication is responsive to \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16, 27-35
- ☐ The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are acceptable.
- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
- ☐ received.
- ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office action. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- ☐ Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION, PTO-152, which discloses that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.

☒ Applicant **MUST** submit **NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS**

- ☐ because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.
- ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, attached hereto or to Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☒ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed on 19 May 1999, which has been approved by the examiner.
- ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the reverse side of the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftperson.

- ☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any response to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

**Attachment(s)**

- ☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

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### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Gay Ann Spahn on May 19, 1999.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

**In the drawings:**

In figure 2 the reference character "28" at the bottom right hand portion of the figure next to 30 will be changed to --29--.

In figure 11 the lead line from the reference character 125 will be changed to point to the bracket, not the pin. This would be consistent with figure 8.

**In the specification:**

On page 5:

In line 21 the term "trail" has been changed to --swing--.

In line 26 the term "swing arm" has been changed to --idler roller--.

In line 33 the term "trolleys" has been changed to --mid-rollers--.

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Between line 35 (i.e., the end of the paragraph beginning "Similarly, on the trailing swing arm (31)..." and line 36 (i.e., the paragraph beginning "The top of the leading swing arm (21)..." the following full paragraph has been inserted:

It should be noted that the drive wheel (12) has certain dimensional requirements and geometrical relationships with respect to the leading and trailing idler rollers (23) and (33) and the mid-roller (29) and (39). More particularly, the drive wheel (12) has a diameter that is at least one-and-one-half times the diameter of either the leading idler wheel (23) or the trailing idler wheel (33). However, the diameter of the drive wheel (12) is shorter than the height of the rubber track system (11). In other words, the drive wheel (12) is positioned in the rubber track system (11) so that an upper circumferential portion of the drive wheel (12) contacts an upper portion of the rubber track system (11), but the lower circumferential portion of the drive wheel (12) does not contact a lower portion of the rubber track system (11). Rather, the lower circumferential portion of the drive wheel (12) is spaced from the upper surface of the lower portion of the rubber track system (11). The distance between the lower circumferential portion of the drive wheel (12) and the upper surface of the lower portion of the rubber track system (11) is less than one-half the diameter of the drive wheel (12) and also less than the diameter of the mid-rollers (29) and (39). Thus, the upper circumferential portion of the mid-rollers (29) and (39) is above the lower circumferential portion of the drive wheel

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B<sup>1</sup> I  
L (12) or in other words, the bottom of the drive wheel (12) extends below the top level of the mid-rollers (29) and (39). ✓

On page 7:

In line 59 "(126)" has been changed to --(136)--.

In line 65 "(127)" has been changed to --(125)--.

On page 8:

B<sub>2</sub> I  
L In line 6, "idler arms (23) and (33) has been changed to leading and trailing arm (21) and (31). ✓

In line 11, after the word "utilized" and before the period (.) the following has been inserted: --and the same dimensional requirements and geometrical relationships between the drive wheel (112), the leading and trailing idler rollers (23) and (33), and the mid-rollers (129) as described above with respect to the first embodiment.-- ✓

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Russell D. Stormer whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

rds

May 20, 1999

*R.D. Stormer*  
RUSSELL D. STORMER 5/20/99  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

*James*  
5/25/99